

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Claims 1-41 (Cancelled).

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 42 (Currently Amended) An extended textile reinforcement layer for hoses, tubes and similar extended objects, ~~that comprise at least one inner layer, said textile reinforcement layer and an outer layer, that is bonded to the textile reinforcement layer and the inner layer,~~ characterized in that said textile reinforcement layer comprises a stiffening selected from the group of individual threads, individual yarns and a textile product, said stiffening forming a textile bond with the reinforcement layer, said stiffening at normal ambient temperatures will act as a stiffener of the reinforcement layer in a direction different from the longitudinal axis ~~of the body of said textile reinforcement layer~~ to be reinforced stiffened, particularly in a substantially perpendicular direction to the longitudinal axis ~~of the body of said hose, tube or similar extended object~~ to be reinforced, and wherein said stiffening material has a first melting point which is lower than a second melting point of the reinforcement layer.

43. (Previously Added) The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 42, wherein said stiffening consists of individual threads or yarns.

44. (Previously Added) The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 42.

45. (Previously Added) The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 44, wherein said textile product is selected from the group consisting of a fabric, knitted fabric, knit, double knit and a fleece.

Please add new claim 46-49 as follows:

46. (New) A method for the manufacture of a hose, a tube or a similar extended object, comprising at least one inner layer, a textile reinforcement layer, and an outer layer bonded to the textile reinforcement layer and the inner layer, comprising the steps of:

providing a stiffening selected from the group of individual threads, individual yarns and a textile product;

forming a textile bond between the stiffening and the textile reinforcement layer;

wherein said stiffening has a melting point which is lower than the melting point of the textile reinforcement layer; and

wherein said stiffening at normal ambient temperatures will act as a stiffener in a direction different from the longitudinal axis of the textile reinforcement layer; and

applying the textile reinforcement layer to one of the at least one inner layer and the outer layer such that said stiffening at normal ambient temperatures will act as a stiffener in a substantially perpendicular direction to the longitudinal axis of said hose, tube or similar extended object.

47. (New) Method of claim 46, wherein said stiffening consists of individual threads or yarns.

48. (New) Method of claim 46, wherein said stiffening consists of a textile product.

49. (New) Method of claim 48, wherein said textile product is selected from a fabric, knitted fabric, knit, double knit and a fleece.